THE JOURNAL OF \_\_

# THE INSTITUTION OF PRODUCTION ENGINEERS

Vol. 29, No. 10, October 1950

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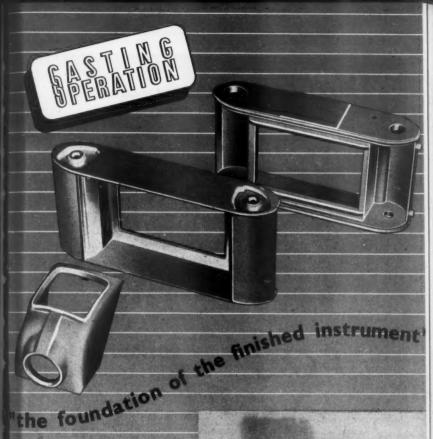
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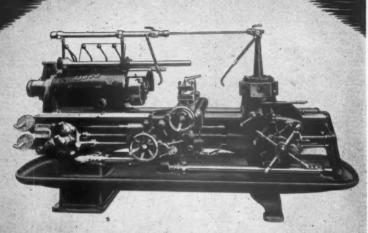
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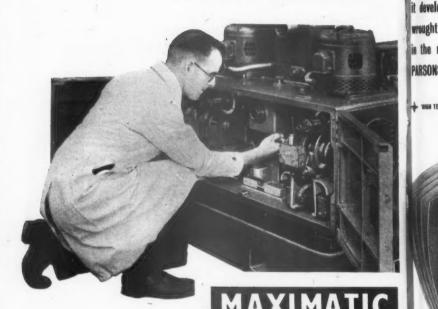
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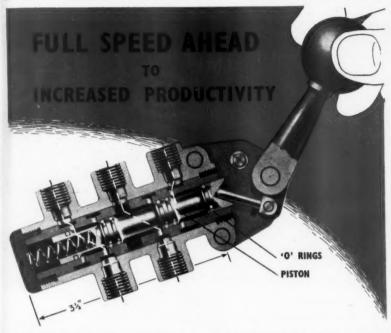
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#### THE JOURNAL OF

# THE INSTITUTION OF PRODUCTION ENGINEERS

Vol. 29, No. 10, October 1950

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## WORKING GROUPS Service to the Institution

The vitality of any corporate body can only be the sum total of the personal contributions made by its individual members. A comparatively small body can carry immense weight in national affairs if all its members are active and take a vigorous part in its corporate life: conversely, very large bodies whose members are apathetic quickly sink into insignificance. This is a lesson to be learned from the fortunes of nations in the course of history. Moreover, the standing of a professional body in the eyes of the community will always rest largely on the quality and extent of the public service rendered by its members, and their contribution to social progress.

The Institution of Production Engineers, by virtue of the characteristics of the profession it serves, should be amongst the most progressive of such bodies, and its very rapid growth in numbers and status over the last ten years might be held to justify this claim. However, there is a serious danger that with such rapid growth, the main body of members may lose touch with its policy and activities, and thus its very growth may be a source of weakness. For this reason, Council have lately been giving serious thought to ways in which the individual member can be enabled to maintain close contact with the Institution and make a personal

contribution to its corporate life.

OPPORTUNITIES
OF SERVICE

OF SERVICE

Hon. Secretaries, as members of Section Committees, and finally as members of Council, have shouldered the main burden of responsibility.

On the other hand, there are a number of ways in which other members can contribute, and their individual contributions, even if apparently small, will be of great value when properly coordinated. By undertaking a specific task on behalf of the Insti-

tution, members can help to share the load more fairly.

SCOPE FOR

One of the principal ways in which individual members can help is by pooling their personal knowledge and experience as members of Study Groups doing practical research work in the field. The resources latent in the Institution membership have scarcely yet been tapped; it is essential that this experience should be available in a constant

stream for the benefit of the profession and the community as a Members are known to be employed in every kind of industrial enterprise, distributed over the whole of the British Isles and a large part of the British Commonwealth. These members have access through their daily activities to a mass of factual knowledge, which may be of great value to the Institution if intelligently applied to a common purpose.

The main objective of study groups or working **OBJECTIVES OF** groups should be to produce factual evidence, in the STUDY GROUPS form of case studies, to form the basis of any Reports which the Institution may subsequently publish on research or educational subjects. By virtue of its professional status, the Institution is in a favourable position to publish information about industrial progress, with a view to improving productivity. such Report would be of any value if it consisted only of opinions and generalisations, which are open to immediate challenge. Such documents must be based on facts which, being furnished from the direct manufacturing experience of members of the Institution,

would be unchallengeable.

It is for this reason that Council asks Working Groups to make the best possible use of the experience of their members, and to produce case studies illustrating their field of study. Apart from the value of these studies to the Research Committee, the pooling of experience in this way will be of immense benefit not only to the members of the Group, but to Production Engineers throughout the country who may have encountered similar problems in their This sharing of experience is surely one of the reasons own works. for the existence of the Institution. These remarks apply particularly to the Working Groups on Materials Handling, whose aim will be to provide a comprehensive picture of the general practice in British industry with regard to the application of materials handling methods. Members will have access through their daily activities to factual information which, if properly used, can be of the greatest value in building up this overall picture. They might re-examine their own solutions of particular handling problems within their own works, and consider whether this past experience would provide material for a case study. Naturally, the most useful studies will be those not concerned with isolated and infrequent problems, but those which have a wide application and illustrate a principle. Cases where changes of practice were not justified by results may also be valuable, if they contribute to our knowledge of the circumstances in which various categories of materials handling equipment can economically be brought into use.

the Institution to state the facts without bias and without fear, whether pleasant or otherwise. No remedies can be applied without an accurate diagnosis of the disease. However, the Institution is concerned with general principles and practice, and members will appreciate that the names of individual firms would never be quoted in any reports which might be published.

It is hoped that these working groups will in time become a permanent feature of Institution life; their membership may change, but there will be no lack of tasks for them to carry out as the Institution's activities continue to cover an ever broadening

field.

Other ways of assisting the Institution by a personal voluntary contribution will no doubt occur to members. For example, the Institution badly needs a first-class abstracting service to be run in conjunction with the Hazleton Memorial Library, which is to be opened this month. At the moment the Library Maintenance Sub-Committee have accepted responsibility for the preparation of abstracts, but they will probably need to call on individual members to help them in this work. The Chairman of the Committee would no doubt welcome offers of assistance from members who could undertake a limited amount of work of this nature.

It is also hoped to build up gradually a comprehensive index of corporate members and their specialised qualifications and interests, in order to widen the use of the present index cards designed by the Standards Committee for work in connection with B.S.I. These cards could be used to provide panels of members willing to represent the Institution on specialised Committees, to give papers on specific subjects, or to answer technical enquiries.

All these voluntary activities need to be encouraged and organised in the first instance by local Section Committees, who have the necessary personal contacts and who can put members with similar interests in touch with one another. However, Council are most anxious that the work of organising groups of members and canalising their contributions should not fall on the already overburdened Section Hon. Secretaries. Other members of Section Committees will no doubt be ready to assist by acting as liaison officers between their Section Committees and local groups.

The function of Headquarters is to give what guidance and administrative help may be necessary to ensure that all these groups and panels are directing their efforts to a common end, and that their studies are complementary to the work of the Standing Committees.

To achieve really worthwhile results, the work of local groups must clearly be geared to a planned programme; otherwise their isolated efforts might find no place in the publications of findings which will carry the whole weight of the Institution's authority.

It is therefore the duty of the Research Department at Headquarters to make known to all study groups, through their Section Committees, those aspects of the policy and programme of the Institution which may require research in the field; to issue notes for their guidance on behalf of the appropriate Standing Committees, and to collect and collate the reports of the Groups for submission to the Standing Committees. This will ensure that the maximum use is made of the voluntary efforts of members. From time to time, it is hoped to publish combined Progress Reports in the Journal on the lines of that published in this month's issue, in order to keep the various groups in touch with each other's activities and enable them to avoid unnecessary overlapping.

At present, Research activities at Headquarters are directed by the Research Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Lionel Kearns, C.B.E., who is also Chairman of the Council of the Production Engineering Research Association. The following members have also been elected to serve on this Committee for the

forthcoming year :-

Mr. J. H. Bingham Mr. Bingham, who is a Consultant, played a leading part in the establishment and guidance of the Institution's Research Department at Loughborough prior to the formation of P.E.R.A. Member of Council.

Mr. W. H. Brown Head of the Department of Mechanical and Civil Engineering, College of Technology and Art, Rotherham.

Mr. A. J. Bullivant Technical Manager, Lamson Engineering Co. and member of Materials Handling Sub-Committee.

Chief of Materials Handling Advisory Mr. F. T. Dean Department, Geo. W. King Ltd., Hitchin. Member of Materials Handling Sub-Committee.

Mr. W. J. Dimmock Assistant Works Manager, Hoover Ltd. Accompanied the Materials Handling Productivity Team to America in 1949 as Secretary of the Team: now a member of the Materials Handling Sub-Committee.

#### WORKING GROUPS

	WORKING GROUPS				
Mr. B. H. Dyson	Works Manager, Hoover Ltd. Joint Chairman of the Joint Committee on Measurement of Productivity, succeeding Mr. W. Puckey who recently resigned from this office. Member of Council.				
Mr. F. G. S. English	General Manager, Powers-Samas Accounting Machines Ltd., Croydon. Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee for Croydon District Study Groups on Measurement of Productivity.				
Dr. D. F. Galloway, B.Sc.	Director of Research, Production Engineering Research Association.				
Mr. P. Holmes	Research & Development Engineer, Steel Peech & Tozer Ltd., Sheffield.				
Prof. T. U. Matthew	Lucas Professor of the Principles of Engineering Production, University of Birmingham. Member of the Joint Committee on Measurement of Productivity and Member of Council.				
Mr. S. W. Nixon, M.Sc.	Manager, Production Development Engin- eering Dept., Rover Co. Ltd., Tyseley, Birmingham.				
Mr. G. R. Pryor	Director, Edward Pryor & Son Ltd., Sheffield. Member of Council.				
Mr. J. B. Robertson	Technical Sales Engineer, Steel & Co. Ltd., Sunderland. Member of Materials Hand- ling Sub-Committee.				
Mr. M. Seaman, M.Sc.	Director and General Manager, David Brown-Jackson Ltd., Salford Works, Man- chester. Member of Council.				
Mr. A. L. Stuchbery	Chief Technical Engineer, Metal Box Co. Ltd., Chairman of Technical and Publica- tions Committee and Member of Council.				
Mr. W. J. Webb	Consultant. Chairman of Materials Handling Sub-Committee.				
Mr. F. Whitehead	General Works Manager, Milners Safe Co. Ltd., President, Liverpool Section, and Member of Council.				

#### THE INSTITUTION OF PRODUCTION ENGINEERS

The Secretary of the Research Committee and Head of the Research Department at Headquarters is Miss J. M. Pye, who also acts as secretary of the Materials Handling Sub-Committee and the Joint Committee on Measurement of Productivity. Miss Pye took a Bachelor of Arts degree at Oxford in 1939, and was engaged on intelligence work at the War Office until 1945, when she joined the staff of the Institution. She has held various appointments on the staff, and was appointed Head of the Research Department in December, 1949.

WALTER C. PUCKEY,

Chairman of Council.

# HAZLETON MEMORIAL LIBRARY OPENING CEREMONY

#### Thursday, 26th October, 1950

MEMBERS will no doubt recall that the original Library of the Institution was totally destroyed by fire in March, 1944.

In planning its reconstitution, Council agreed that the new Library should take the form of a permanent memorial to the late Richard Hazleton, to whom the Institution owes so much for his work as its first General Secretary.

Members and friends have responded generously to appeals for funds and books, and on Thursday evening, 26th October, 1950, the Hazleton Memorial Library will be declared open by the President of the Institution, Major-General K. C. Appleyard, C.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., M.I.Mech.E., A.M.I.Min.E., A.I.M.E.

The Library will contain books covering all aspects of production engineering. These books will be available to every member of the Institution, a special postal service being arranged for those unable to visit the Library personally. In addition to the ordinary reference facilities, it is intended to inaugurate an extensive information service to deal with members' enquiries, and also an abstracting service. Abstracts of all new books received will be prepared and circulated to members every month with the Institution Journal, commencing with the November issue.

The work of re-establishing the Library has been carried out mainly by members of the London Graduate Section, who have also made the arrangements for the official opening. In addition to the President, other prominent speakers will be the Chairman of Council, Mr. Walter C. Puckey, F.I.I.A., the Right Hon. Lord Sempill, A.F.C., Chairman of the Library Committee, and Mr. William Core, President of the London Section.

Admission to the opening ceremony will be by programme, which may be obtained from Section Hon. Secretaries, or from Head Office.

#### INSTITUTION NOTES

October, 1950

MEETING OF COUNCIL The next Meeting of Council will take place on Thursday, 26th October, 1950, at 11 a.m., at 36, Portman Square, W.1.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

In response to the Prime Minister's recent statement concerning a rearmament programme, followed by his broadcast on 30th July, the Chairman of Council, Mr. Walter C. Puckey, wrote to Mr. Attlee and placed the services of the Institution of Production Engineers at the disposal of the Government.

In a reply from Downing Street, Mr. Attlee expressed his warm thanks and appreciation of the Institution's offer.

### JOINT COMMITTEE ON MEASUREMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY

Mr. Walter C. Puckey has resigned from the Joint Chairmanship of this Committee, owing to his increased d

commitments as Chairman of Council.

The new Joint Chairman is Mr. B. H. Dyson, who is also Chairman of the Sub-Committee responsible for drafting a comprehensive Time Study Training Scheme. This Sub-Committee are now preparing a preliminary report.

The I.C.W.A. members of the Joint Committee have been actively working on Machine Utilisation, and are also preparing a report. Mr. F. G. S. English, General Manager, Powers-Samas Accounting Machines Limited, who is Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee for Study Groups on the Measurement of Productivity in the Croydon District, has been invited to join this I.C.W.A.

Group.

#### Work Measurement Research Survey

It will be remembered that in their Interim Report published in December, 1949, the Joint Committee on Measurement of Productivity set up by the Institution of Production Engineers and the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants, pointed out that present variations in Time Study method as between different companies were far too wide. In particular, the variation in speed and effort rating of an identical operation by different engineers in a small sample group of firms was found to be as much as 12 per cent. Since the publication of their first Report, the Joint Committee have been engaged in the organisation of a nation-wide survey of rating practice, undertaken in collaboration with the Work Measurement

Research Unit of the University of Birmingham, who have already done a considerable amount of research on these problems. All administrative arrangements for the survey have been made by the Joint Committee through the Institution of Production Engineers Headquarters, and local Section Hon. Secretaries.

The survey, which began on 25th September and will end on 2nd November, covers a wide range of industry; the textile, chemical and food manufacturing industries being well represented in addition to the engineering industry. Some 150 firms are taking part and will send 400 to 500 time study staff to carry out rating tests at twelve major industrial centres by means of specially prepared films of typical industrial operations. Two members of the Research Unit, Mr. D. J. Desmond, Research Fellow, and Mr. C. J. Anson, Research Scholar, of the University of Birmingham, will conduct the rating experiments in Birmingham, Leicester, Sheffield, Leeds, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Dundee, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, London, and Bristol. It is the first time that a survey of this kind has been arranged in this country, although a similar study has taken place in America.

The participating engineers will have an opportunity to compare the quality of their rating with that of a control group of skilled Time Study men. They will also be given particulars of a new method of analysing Time Studies recently evolved by the Research

Unit.

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The Survey, although primarily a fact-finding investigation to assess the standard of accuracy and consistency in present rating practice, will indirectly serve a useful purpose if it helps to spread knowledge of time study methods amongst industries where its benefits are comparatively little known. Statistical analysis of the many thousands of observations to be collected will take some months, but it is hoped that a report on the Survey may be available by the late summer of 1951.

The Institution's gratitude is due to all those Section Hon. Secretaries who have assisted so greatly by making arrangements for local gatherings of time study engineers within their own areas. Without their help, the administrative difficulties of organising this large scale survey would have been multiplied many times.

#### SECTION ACTIVITIES

WESTERN With a view to establishing relationship with other Institutions, the Western Section have arranged a Joint Discussion with the Institution of Cost and Works Accountants on "Measurement of Productivity." In addition, a Joint Lecture with the Gloucestershire Engineering Society and The Plastics Institute has been arranged to take place in Stroud.

The Work Measurement Research Survey for this district will be conducted in Bristol on 2nd November, 1950, in the Bristol College of Technology.

The Section Annual Dinner and Dance will be held on Wednes-

day, 25th October, 1950, at the Berkeley Cafe, Bristol.

WOLVERHAMPTON The Section visit to the Bristol Aeroplane Company on 3rd June, 1950, was attended by 120 members.

In the morning the party made a conducted tour of the Engine Division, following which they were entertained to lunch in the Aircraft Division Staff Canteen, by Mr. G. W. Wright, M.I.Prod.E., Vice-Chairman of the Western Section.

A Vote of Thanks to the Bristol Aeroplane Company and the Western Section for their hospitality was proposed by Mr. S. R. Tyler, Chairman of the Wolverhampton Graduate Section.

After lunch the party visited the Brabazon I and II, which were

examined with the greatest interest.

On leaving their Bristol hosts, the party were taken to Cheddar and toured the famous caves, and a highly successful outing terminated at six o'clock in the evening.

#### WORKING GROUPS

#### **Progress Report**

Now that many Sections are actively considering the establishment of Working Groups or Study Groups, as a contribution to the Institution's research activities, members may be interested to hear of the progress made by those groups already in being. The groups are listed below according to their subject: although materials handling has, of course, a close bearing on productivity measurement, these two broad subjects will be treated independently by the Committees now studying them, and separate Reports will eventually be issued.

MATERIALS
HANDLING
In this field, the Birmingham Section have set up a Group under the chairmanship of Professor T. U. Matthew, which has held several meetings. Mr. T. W. Elkington, a member of the Birmingham Section Committee, has been elected Vice-Chairman, and Mr. W. A. Robinson acts as Secretary. The Group have selected "Inter-process Transfer Mechanisms" as an appropriate subject for study in the Birmingham area, where industry comprises many medium and small sized concerns. Members of the group represent a wide range of industry, and the majority have extensive experience of handling problems.

The London Graduate Section have an active group led by Mr. R. Thorn, a member of the Section Committee. The group are making a special study of Stillages, and intend to arrange a number of works visits. Members of the group will also search for suitable case studies amongst material published in the Technical Press.

The London Section have now set up active MEASUREMENT Study groups in the Croydon area, to study OF PRODUCTIVITY Measurement of Productivity from the points of view of Material, Labour, and Equipment Utilisation. F. G. S. English, General Manager of Powers-Samas Ltd., Croydon, introduced the subject at a preliminary meeting with a short paper entitled "Some Notes on the Measurement of Productivity." Co-ordinating Committee had been formed to link the activities of the various groups, with Mr. English as Chairman; Mr. J. W. H. Smith is acting as Group Secretary and Mr. H. W. Townsend, a member of the London Section Committee, attends meetings in order to maintain liaison. The groups will study the manufacture of a fractional horse-power electric motor in batch quantities of 1,000: members of the groups are proceeding to provide a manufacturing layout for each piecepart. Some items will be treated as "bought out" units. The groups will hold a joint meeting on 10th October, 1950, when preparatory work will be reviewed, and decisions reached regarding future study by individual groups. Any members interested in joining the Croydon Study Group should communicate with the Group Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. W. H. Smith, A.M.I.Prod.E., at Powers-Samas Accounting Machines Ltd., Aurelia Road, Mitcham Road, Croydon.

The London Graduate Section has had an active group on Work Measurement in operation for several months under the leadership of Mr. W. E. Mosse. This group is expected to present an interim

Report very shortly.

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TECHNICAL EDUCATION A number of Graduate Sections have established Study Groups to deal with particular aspects of Technical Education.

The establishment of Working Groups is being discussed in a number of other Sections, including the Western, South Wales, West Wales; Eastern Counties, Southern, Preston, Manchester, North-Eastern and Luton Graduate Sections. The Research Committee would be glad to have particulars of any additional Working Groups now in operation.

Members who would like to take part in this work and who are not aware of any Groups yet formed within their Sections, should get

in touch with their local Section Hon. Secretary.

#### **NEWS OF MEMBERS**

Mr. A. H. Aston, Associate Member, has been appointed Assistant Works Manager to Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd., N. Shields.

Mr. Robert L. Aston, Associate Member, has been appointed Senior Assistant in Production Engineering at Cardiff Technical College.

Mr. H. Bolton, Associate Member, was recently appointed Lecturer in Production Engineering subjects at Huddersfield Technical College.

Mr. P. Buchanan, Graduate, is now Chief Engineer to A. F. Stoddard & Co. Ltd., Elderslie, Renfrewshire.

Mr. Ivor M. Campbell, Graduate, is now Production Manager to E. W. H. Stanleigh & Co. Ltd., Colevaine, N. Ireland.

Mr. L. C. Carr-Locke, B.Sc., Associate Member, is now practising independently as a consultant on matters of production organisation, with temporary headquarters at Tiverton, Devon.

Mr. E. S. Carter, Associate Member, is now Chief Draughtsman with L. H. Newton, Ltd., Birmingham.

Mr. Walter Colley, Associate Member, and Mr. A. Groocock, Associate Member, of J. & H. McLaren, Ltd., Leeds, have recently returned from the United States, where they have been studying American production methods.

Mr. G. Cubitt-Smith, Graduate, is now studying in America under the terms of an Economic Co-operation Administration Award.

Mr. A. J. Deeley, Associate Member, is now Works Manager with Taylor, Sow & Co. Ltd., Stourbridge.

Mr. H. Dodd, Associate Member, is now in charge of Workshops and Drawing Offices at West Oxfordshire Technical College, Witney, Oxon.

Major A. G. Hayek, Associate Member, has been appointed a Director of the newly-formed company, Thackwell & Hayek, Ltd., of Birmingham and Stoke-on-Trent.

Mr. F. Knight, Associate Member, is now Works Manager of S. Dixon & Sons, Ltd., Swinegate, Leeds.

Mr. H. M. Knight, Associate Member, is now Manager of the Spring Works of Price Bros. Ltd., Wellington, Somerset.

Mr. W. R. Larby, Associate Member, is now Mould Shop Superintendent for R. H. Windsor, Ltd., South Chessington, Surrey.

Mr. R. W. Pile, Associate Member, has been appointed Works Manager of Avery-Hardoll, Ltd., Tolworth.

#### INSTITUTION NOTES

Mr. Godfrey C. Pitt, Graduate, is now Lecturer in Workshop Technology (Production) at Glamorgan Technical College, Treforest.

Mr. Norman Rowbotham, Member, has been elected to the Council of P.E.R.A., and has also accepted an invitation to serve on the Board of Governors of the Bristol College of Technology.

Mr. W. Shelton, Graduate, was recently appointed Chief Development Engineer with Thomas Locker & Co. Ltd., Warrington.

Mr. H. Valberg, Associate Member, M.I.B.F., A.M.I.I.A., is now Production Controller, Foundry Group, Hadfields Foundry and Engineering Co. Ltd., East Hecla Works.

Mr. G. N. Venn, Associate Member, was awarded first class honours in the recent External B.Sc.(Eng.) examination of the University of London.

Mr. R. J. C. Whitaker, Graduate, is now Senior Production Engineer with The Glacier Metal Co. Ltd., Alperton, Middlesex.

RETIREMENT OF On 1st June, 1950, nearly two hundred leaders MR. JACK FINLAY, of Australian private industry attended a M.B.E., Hon.M.I.Prod.E. Testimonial Dinner in Sydney in honour of Mr. Jack Finlay, M.B.E., and Florence Taylor Memorial Medal winner. Mr. Finlay retired last May after nearly forty years service with the Lithgow Small Arms Factories, of which he was General



Manager, and where he had pioneered, established, and developed

production techniques new to Australia.

The photograph on previous page shows Mr. Finlay (left) receiving from Mr. E. G. Bishop (President of the Sydney Section), who presided at the Dinner, a presentation cheque subscribed by those associated with the function, and an engraved book commemorating the occasion and containing the following tribute:—

" Mr. Jack Finlay:

"On the occasion of your retirement from the position of General Manager of the Small Arms Factories, Lithgow, your many friends in the Metal Trades and Allied Industries wish to express their appreciation of the peerless friendship, help and advice you have always so wholeheartedly given them.

"Your pioneer efforts, your invaluable service in war and peace, your unique knowledge and the generous way in which you have shared it leaves a lasting glow of gratitude that defies expression."

At the Council Meeting of the Institution of Production Engineers held in London on 27th July, 1950, it was unanimously decided to ask Mr. Finlay to accept Honorary Membership in recognition of his long and valued service to the Institution in Australia.

OBITUARY The Institution records with deep regret the death of Mr. Alfred Ewing, Member, Managing Director of Sanderson Bros. and Newbould, Ltd., Sheffield.

BRITISH STANDARDS

The following Standards have recently been issued and are obtainable from the British Standards Institution, 28, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.I., at the prices indicated:

328: 1950-Twist Drills and Centre Drills (Price 6/- post free) I.Prod.E. representative on appropriate B.S.I. Committee; Mr.

J. E. Baty.

1453: 1950-Steel Filler Rods for Gas Welding of Mild Steel (Price 1/- post free).

BOOKS "Centreless Grinding," Vol. II. Arthur Scrivener, Ltd., RECEIVED Birmingham.

Developments in the application and technique of centreless grinding, including the fully automatic controlled-cycle machine, and the growth in the employment of wheel crushing, have been the factors necessitating the compilation and publishing of this revised edition of the original volume with the same title.

The new volume gives complete details of all the aforementioned developments, together with a section of revised data sheets which give an adequate picture of the capabilities associated with modern machines. The general user, however, is not forgotten and many

examples are given of simple classes of work carried out on general purpose machines.

Volume II has been compiled on the presumption that the general reader is already familiar with the basic principles of centreless grinding. (This information was included in Volume I).

The book is very well printed on good quality paper, and is divided into four sections. Section One is concerned with the latest developments in centreless grinding technique and describes in great detail general methods of procedure as well as many of a specialised and unusual nature, and includes full information on up-to-date wheel crushing technique.

Section Two is devoted to descriptions and specifications of the latest machines, among which are included centreless thread grinders and specially designed piston grinders.

Section Three is a treatise on all types of automatic operation and ancillary topics, whilst Section Four consists of 31 pages given over to production data varying from the grinding of low tensile materials such as plastic beads, to hardened steel shafts of various lengths and diameters.

This new volume is undoubtedly a worthwhile addition to the Production Engineer's library and should prove useful to all concerned with this phase of production.

A.A.F.

"Layout Planning Techniques" by John R. Immer. McGraw-Hill Book Co. \$5.00.

This book is a valuable work of reference, efficiently arranged, and covers an immense field.

It is divided into six parts, of which the first deals with layout analysis, material flow in both factory and office, with many informative illustrations and diagrams.

In Part 2, examples are given of Layout Planning as applied to various industries, including farms and merchandising.

Part 3 covers assembly line layout, specialisation of labour, progressive assembly and sub-assembly, production flow, jigs and fixtures and flexibility.

The fourth part demonstrates the information to be collated in order to present a layout, the establishing of lines of flow, preparations of plant layout drawings, templates, the use of scale models and cost of installation.

The handling of materials and material handling equipment is described in Part 5, whilst the sixth part presents interesting actual case studies.

To describe even briefly the mass of information contained in this book would necessitate a lengthy review. It comprises 430 pages giving descriptions and copious illustrations of existing layouts of the operating practices of many factories. For students and factory planning engineers seeking up-to-date knowledge on this wide subject, this book will be of great value.

H.G.

"Suggestion Schemes" (Third Edition). Industrial Welfare Society, London. 2/6 post free.

This small booklet may be considered very helpful to those

contemplating installing such a scheme in their business.

Aims and objects are explained together with suggestion schemes in practice, and the working of such schemes is fully explained with suggestions as to the administration of the scheme and methods for the assessment of awards.

Types of suggestions invited and examples of the various forms necessary for the working of such schemes are also explained.

"Are Workers Human?" by Gordon Rattray Taylor. The Falcon Press, London. 10/6 net.

"Stores Control Procedures" by H. H. Norcross, F.C. W.A., A.I. Prod. E. Office Management Association, London. 5/- net.

IMPORTANT

In order that the Journal may be despatched on time, it is essential that copy should reach the Head Office of the Institution not later than 40 days prior to the date of issue, which is the first of each month.

ISSUE OF JOURNAL Owing to the fact that output has to be adjusted to meet requirements, and in order to avoid carrying heavy stocks, it has been decided that the Journal will only be issued to new Members from the date they join the Institution.

#### **SECTION MEETINGS**

The following meetings have been arranged to take place in November, 1950. Where full details are not given, these have not been received at the time of going to press.

#### November

- rst Liverpool Graduate Section. A lecture on "Some Impressions of the Graduates Visit to Sweden" will be given by Mr. G. Smith, Grad.I.Prod.E., at the Exchange Hotel, Tithebarn Street, Liverpool, at 7-45 p.m.
- 1st Wolverhampton Section. A lecture on "Working Pace and Incentives" will be given by Mr. Lewis C. Ord at the Dudley and Staffordshire Technical College, Castle View, Dudley, at 7-00 p.m.
- 1st Nottingham Section. A lecture on "Measurement of Productivity" will be given by Mr. T. W. Badgery, F.C.W.A., at the Victoria Station Hotel, Milton Street, Nottingham, at 7-00 p.m. (Joint Meeting with the Institute of Cost and Works Aeceumtants.)
- 3rd Wolverhampton Graduate Section. There will be a Dance at the Star and Garter Hotel, Victoria Street, Wolverhampton, at 8-00 p.m.

#### November-cont.

- 6th Coventry Graduate Section. A lecture on "Motion Study" will be given by Mr. R. Avery, at Greyfriars Rooms, The Geisha Cafe, Hertford Street, Coventry, at 7-15 p.m.
- 6th Halifax Section. A film, "Precision with Production" (Hydroptic Boring and Milling), introduced by Mr. G. H. Clements, will be shown at the White Swan Hotel, Halifax, at 7-15 p.m.
- 7th Reading Sub-Section. A lecture on "Requirements for Efficient Production" will be given by Mr. Lewis C. Ord, at the Great Western Hotel, Reading, at 7-15 p.m.
- 8th Preston Section. A lecture on "Engineers Clay" will be given by Mr. F. Westall, M.A., A.M.I.M.E., A.M.I.Prod.E., at the Harris Institute, Corporation Street, Preston, at 7-15 p.m.
- 9th Liverpool Section. A lecture on "Inspection Standards As An Aid to Production" will be given by Mr. J. Hobbs, at Radiant House, Bold Street, Liverpool, at 7-15 p.m.
- 9th Southern Section. A lecture on "The Production Engineer—His Education and Training" will be given by Mr. T. B. Worth, M.I.Mech.E., M.I.E.E., M.I.Prod.E., at the Polygon Hotel, Southampton, at 7-00 p.m.
- 10th North Eastern Graduate Section. A lecture on "Planning of Production in the Bedding Industry" will be given by Mr. L. Walmsley, Grad.I.Prod.E., at the Neville Hall Mining Institution, Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1, at 7-00 p.m.
- 10th West Wales Sub-Section. A lecture on "Electrolytic Tinning" will be given by Mr. W. E. Hoare, B.Sc., at the Central Library, Alexandra Road, Swansea, at 7-30 p.m.
- 11th Yorkshire Graduate Section. A lecture on "Refrigeration" will be given by Mr. E. Hargreaves, A.Inst.R., M.A.S.R.E., at the Great Northern Station Hotel, Leeds, 1, at 2-30 p.m.
- 13th Sheffield Section. A lecture on "Mechanical Handling" will be given by members of the Anglo-American Productivity Team, led by Mr. A. Roebuck, M.I.Mech.E., at the Royal Victoria Station Hotel, Sheffield, at 6-30 p.m.
- 13th Yorkshire Section. A lecture on "Activities of the Production Engineering Research Association" will be given by Dr. D. F. Galloway, B.Sc. (Hons.), M.I.Mech.E., A.M.I.E.E., M.I.Prod.E., in the Hotel Metropole, King Street, Leeds 1, at 7-00 p.m.
- 14th Birmingham Section. There will be a Joint Meeting with the West Midlands Branch, Institution of Works Managers, to discuss "The Role of the Production Engineer in Industry," in the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, at 7-00 p.m.
- 14th Birmingham Graduate Section. A lecture on "Steel Production—With Special Reference to Alloy Steel Manufacture" will be given by Mr. E. Booth, at the James Watt Memorial Institute, Great Charles Street, Birmingham, at,7-00 p.m.
- 14th Coventry Section. A lecture on "Management's Role in the Improvement of Industrial Efficiency" will be given by Sir Charles Bartlett, M.I.Prod.E. (Joint Meeting with the Institute of Industrial Administration.)
- 14th Dundee Section. A "Local Talent Night" will be held at Mathers Hotel, Whitehall Crescent, Dundee, at 7-30 p.m.

#### November-cont.

- 14th London Graduate Section. A lecture on "The Workshop Application of Cutting Tool Theory" will be given by Mr. H. H. Langshur, G.I.Mech.E., Grad.I.Prod.E., at the Institution of Production Engineers, 36, Portman Square, London, W.I. at 7-15 p.m.
- 14th London Graduate Section. A Works Visit to Vickers Armstrongs Ltd., Weybridge, Surrey, will take place at 2-30 p.m.
- 14th Western Section. A lecture on "Some Interesting Set-ups on Modern Machine Tools" will be given by Mr. R. C. Fenton, M.I.Prod.E., at the Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol, at 7-15 p.m.
- 15th Birmingham Section. A lecture on "Production Engineering Methods Applied to Furniture Manufacture" will be given by Mr. R. Dolman Bibby, at the James Watt Memorial Institute, Great Charles Street, Birmingham 3, at 7-00 p.m.
- 15th Edinburgh Section. A lecture on "Costing in Relation to the Production Engineer" will be given by Mr. W. A. Eastwood, A.C.W.A., at the North British Station Hotel, Edinburgh, at 7-30 p.m.
- 15th Manchester Graduate Section. A lecture on "Textile Production Engineering" by G. A. D. Coghlan, B.Sc.(Eng.), A.M.I.E.E., will be held in the Reynolds Hall (Room C.3), College of Technology, Sackville Street, Manchester, at 7-15 p.m.
- 15th Northern Ireland Section. A lecture on "Measurement of Productivity" will be given by Mr. A. E. Clifford, in the Municipal College of Technology, Belfast, at 7-30 p.m.
- 16th Glasgow Section. A lecture on "Latest Developments in Grinding Machines" will be given by Mr. H. Bottomley, Grad. I. Prod. E., at the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders, 39, Elmbank Crescent, Glasgow, C.2, at 7-30 p.m.
- 16th London Section. A lecture on "Research in Relation to Production Engineering" will be given by Dr. D. F. Galloway, B.Sc. (Hons.), M.I.Mech.E., A.M.I.E.E., M.I.Prod.E., at the Royal Empire Society, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2, at 7-00 p.m.
- 16th Wolverhampton Graduate Section. A lecture on "The Geologists' Search for New Materials of Engineering Production" will be given by Mr. A. J. Aiers, M.I.Mech.E., M.I.Prod.E., at West Midland Gas Board Demonstration Room, Clarence Street (off Waterloo Road), Wolverhampton, at 7-15 p.m.
- 17th Eastern Counties Section. A lecture on "Mechanical Handling" will be given by Mr. W. J. T. Dimmock, A.M.I.Prod.E., at Ipswich Public Library (Old Foundry Road entrance) at 7-30 p.m.
- 20th Derby Sub-Section. A lecture on "Glass and the Engineer" will be given by Dr. A. J. Holland, M.Sc., at the School of Art, Green Lane, Derby, at 7-00 p.m.
- 20th North Eastern Section. A lecture on "Foremanship" will be given by Mr. A. P. Young, O.B.E., in the Neville Hall Mining Institution, Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1, at 7-00 p.m.
- 20th Manchester Section. A lecture on "Production and Inspection of Gears" will be given by Mr. J. Milwain, M.I.Prod.E., M.I.E.I., at the College of Technology, Sackville Street, Manchester, at 7-15 p.m.
- 21st Coventry Section. A lecture on "Production of Castings for Quantity Machining" will be given by Mr. J. Pardoe, M.Eng., A.I.M., in the Greyfriars Rooms, The Geisha Cafe, Hertford Street, Coventry, at 7.15 p.m.

#### INSTITUTION NOTES

#### November-cont.

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- Western Section. A lecture on "Mechanical Handling" will be given by Mr. J. R. Sharp, at The College, Swindon, Wilts, at 6-30 p.m.
- South Wales & Monmouthshire Section. A lecture on "Layout for Batch Production" will be given by Mr. W. E. Mosse, Grad.I.Prod.E., at the South Wales Institute of Engineers, Park Place, Cardiff, at 6-45 p.m.
- 24th Halifax Section. The Annual Dinner and Dance will be held at the George Hotel, Huddersfield.
- 25th Birmingham Section. A Buffet Dance will be held at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham.
- 28th Luton Section. A lecture on "The Art of Scientific and Economic Lubrication" will be given by Dr. Ing. E. Schindler, and Mr. O. E. Nekolla, Dipl.Ing., in the Small Assembly Room, Town Hall, Luton, at 7-15 p.m.
- 29th London Graduate Section. There will be a Works Visit to the Plessey Co. Ltd., Ilford, at 2-30 p.m.
- 29th Lincoln Section. There will be a Works Visit to Smith, Clayton Forge Ltd., Tower Works, Lincoln, at 6-30 p.m.

## THE FUTURE OF PRODUCTION ENGINEERING

By C. R. WHITAKER, M.I.Prod.E.\*

To be presented to the London Section of the Institution, I 2th October, 1950

Pause for a moment, take a breather, it will do us good in these days of difficulty and frustration; review the road we have travelled, the hill we have climbed, and then, refreshed and taught by the lessons gathered, we may look to the vista of the future and get a better perspective of our course, correcting so far as we may

the errors of the past.

Some forty years ago a young man walked out one evening with the intention of calling upon n friend. If an interested observer had been present, he would have noted a somewhat anxious demeanour giving evidence of necessity, coupled with a full determination to get there. The purpose of his visit was to ask his friend if he could tell him what a jig was; the knowledge was essential for he had determined to secure a post as a jig and tool draughtsman with a large organisation.

Some years later, when he had made his way almost to the point of becoming a modest authority on production methods, he in turn was asked by the director of a considerable undertaking

the same question—what is a jig?

Many a Production Engineer of the present day will experience the twang of a sympathetic cord and will recall the time when he had to engage himself to a firm as a tool draughtsman or in some other category before he could secure an opportunity of demonstrating the advantages of improved production methods.

With grit and grind, kicks and ha'pence, and the far-seeing energy and devotion of a few pioneers who formed and established the Institution of Production Engineers, the profession has now come to be recognised at its true value to the community and indeed to the very existence of civilised mankind.

But what of the future? It is well to review the history of Production Engineering and learn lessons from it, and, at the same time, very necessary to look ahead and to estimate so far as we may the trend and direction of our efforts. No one will deny that the stimulus up to the present time has come from quantity production, the producing of more and more at a cheaper and cheaper cost, accentuated by the requirements of the two World Wars.

<sup>\*</sup>Production Research Engineer, E.M.I. Factories, Ltd., Hayes.

The prospect of war overshadows the world still with its grim menace and we may be called upon yet again to mass produce its commodities. Slaves of necessity, mankind may have to sweat and toil to produce from the earth and the elements the wherewithal to survive. Is that then the future to which we look? Surely not, and the sanest way to approach a lasting peace is to make ready for its dawning.

In most of our great and small organisations PROBLEMS OF the stage is set, or is being set, for production QUANTITY PRODUCTION of commodities in large quantity, and where do we find ourselves? The economic position of the world still leaves markets open for our goods but unless these markets can be co-ordinated to provide a large enough demand, quantity production either cannot begin or we cannot produce at a competitive price. markets are lost while efforts are being made to increase the aggregate demand. While each nation is engrossed with its own problems, even the will to co-operate with its neighbours is not sufficient to bring about co-ordination in the timing and placing of orders for goods which would enable manufacturers to depend upon large quantities in the aggregate. Such desirable condition is likely only if men of goodwill representing the manufacturers can travel freely over the world, meeting and persuading men of goodwill to fall into line with their neighbours to the mutual advantage of all. That would enable manufacturers again to launch out into quantity production, but only of certain articles common to the various tastes, traditions, and general requirements of the different peoples.

Is it desirable that peoples and individuals should adjust their tastes and traditions to a common level? Opinion may differ upon the subject but it is certain that now, and for a long time in

the future, such conditions will exist.

Something of the difficulty of co-ordinating the requirements of different peoples is represented by the comparatively simple case of the recent agreement reached between America, Canada, and ourselves in connection with screw-threads, the result of many years' negotiation.

The question then arises as to what should desirably be produced by quantity production methods, and what should not. Generally, we may say that it is wise to standardise or quantity produce any article, component part or unit which has by custom become recognised as being in itself a common requirement of many people, or, by reason of its being complementary to the making of varieties of composite commodities, not severally required in large quantities, is a common requirement in all of them.

drills, taps, etc., and, in the second, such things as screws, nuts and washers, paints, electronic valves, resistors and condensers, and standard or proprietary equipment such as ball bearings, small electric motors, etc. These items should be mass or quantity produced.

On the other hand and equally important are items which should not be quantity produced. Certainly no item, the production of which directly expresses human individuality, that is art in the inspiration and design and craftsmanship in the execution; no item which has for its object personal aesthetic appeal or individual requirement. Under these headings fall styled clothing, styled furniture, yachts, class locomotives, and special purpose machinery.

A VITAL
MARKET

In between these two extremes stands a vital market,
which due largely to concentration upon quantity
production, seems to suffer from some nelglect. At
any rate that challenge may serve to direct attention to the condition.

Every Production Engineer knows that for the mass production of an article a number of functions are involved which must be subordinated to a fairly stereotyped system. The functions are, after completion of the design of the article, process layout, ratefixing, estimating, planning, shop orders, and orders for materials, tool design and manufacture, tool try-out, goods inwards, stores inspection, stores control, progressing, parts manufacture, parts inspection, assembly, assembly inspection, final inspection and test routing, shop clerical, accounts, purchasing, factory control, payment systems.

Now in the case of continuous production of an article or series of similar articles, some of which have been mentioned earlier, screws, electronic valves, ball-bearings, etc., the co-ordinating of the functions referred to is a work which can be developed and perfected until, within the limits of circumstance, a truly efficient

flow of production should result.

The amount of processing, ratefixing, estimating, planning, tooling, and set-up, is a negligible proportion of the amount of direct material cost and labour: but as we get further away from continuous production the proportion of system loading becomes higher until a level is reached at which it begins to be a burden on efficiency.

Again, the more progressive the design of the product, the more difficult and costly is the application of mass production methods to it. Conversely, the more a product is mass produced, the more difficult is a deviation from its design.

APRACTICAL EXAMPLE

An example of this is the television receiver. Television is a comparatively new art and the development of it from all angles is in its 'teens. The market is increasing by stages consequent upon the erection of new transmitting stations. Demand is in excess of supply. The

demand is variable due to differences in those transmitters and will continue to be variable in order to meet new requirements such as increased range, multi-channel reception, conditions of interference, improvement of photography and transmission, and the introduction of colour. In addition, the types of preferred receivers will vary with the possibilities of projection and portability. In the receivers themselves, improved reliability, improved or larger tubes, improved valves and lenses will reduce installation and servicing costs, while improved methods of design should cut out many of the variables in manufacture and test.

A truly economical quantity for manufacture of an article of this nature at its present stage may not need to be in excess of 10,000 and should embrace as low as 1,000. The cabinets in which the equipment is housed may, with advantage, be based on a quantity as low as 1,000, allowing for greater variety of style.

Components used in the build-up of the equipment should be standardised as far as practicable, but the making of the equipment

should be flexible to admit of batch changes in design.

Efforts to produce in large quantities while development is proceeding at high level tend to discourage the acceptance of small orders, and to embarrass development and design by driving them into channels of consideration directed towards the economics of quantity production instead of towards improvement and reliability, at which stage only can a commodity become suitable for quantity production. Quantity production should increase as development falls, and, while development is high, batch production should be the order of the day.

The Production Engineer therefore should set out to cater for this condition positively and not, as is often the case, find himself embarrassed by it. To this end then consideration may well be aimed—a set-up whereby process layout, ratefixing, planning, issuing of shop orders and tooling, are curtailed or eliminated and factory control and payment systems modified. The time necessary to prepare for quantity production is a deterrent to the acceptance

of small orders.

The point may be illustrated by an example. A certain radio receiver was estimated on a basis of 20,000 models. The tooling cost allowed was £1,500. Approximately 1,000 models were made in a small section at an actual tool cost of £312. Most of the tools were suitable for up to 10,000 and could have been repeated where necessary for a further 10,000. It is considered that the cost of making the receiver in batches of 1,000 in a small section, handling the whole business, would not be greater than the estimated cost of making the 20,000 on a quantity basis.

The press tools were mostly made of \(\frac{1}{4}\)" gauge plate and the assembly fixtures of wood, bushed or faced where required with

metal inserts or plates respectively. They answered very well and were quickly in production. If a point fouled, it was just cut away with a knife or chisel.

Because we are so mass production conscious our A NEW APPROACH tooling, even for small and batch quantities, tends to TO TOOLING be massive and adequate for the production of many thousands and millions of parts. This is a direct consequence of many accent being continually pointed to large quantity production. If our tool designers were encouraged to use the ingenuity of which they are peculiarly capable, the manufacture of commodities could be going forward rather than waiting while tools are designed and made which are suitable for doing the work many times over.

Are we not resting too much on hopes of large quantities for manufacture, which quantities do not come? We are set for quantity production and, because of that, are keeping set, while vital smaller orders are passing us by. Surely our outlook should be to flex our organisations to present-day requirement and it will be found that by so doing we shall be stepping up to the quantity production of many more commodities than we dream of in aiming

to mass produce everything we touch.

When a commodity has to be made, why not make it and not hang about in the hope that some fortunate circumstance may

direct the wheel of higher demand for it?

Mass production has carried with it a curse as well as a blessing. We have forged link by link a chain with which to fetter ourselves and there is no reason why we should not immediately turn our

attention towards breaking free.

We are constantly being urged to increase production, the words have become almost a parrot cry, and emanate chiefly from specialists in finance who are anxious to make up the dollar shortage. We have no quarrel with them and appreciate their efforts, but they are not the people who can tell us how to do it and they are out of their depth when they try. Nevertheless they do try, and the consequence is, our entire effort is being directed towards more and more mass production to the exclusion of everything else. We are encouraged to mould our industry more and more on the pattern of American industry and methods; we are in fact led to believe that unless we can emulate, equal or surpass America in mass production, there is little hope of success.

Well, we have a profound respect for Americans; they do their job well and we shall have to be very clever to beat them. must not forget too that if faced with serious competition from us, they can still do better. But what of our job? Are we blinded to the fact that we have a job and an individuality of our own?

Let us examine the question.

We have as a nation that which no other nation BUSINESS ON A has, the whole world's markets open to us. NATIONAL BASIS the various peoples have various tastes and requirements and many of the commodities they require are severally in comparatively small quantity. We have the advantage that, through generations, we have earned a reputation for quality, reliability, and fair dealing. Our business men, in pursuing their normal course in all parts of the world, have by virtue of that proved to be our best ambassadors. We are, as a nation and Commonwealth, spread all over the world and our vital interesst are just as widely dispersed. The "Little England" complex has found no root and has given place to "Great Britain." Politically, economically, and commercially, we are essentially concerned with the nations and, in addition to those ties, we are still looked up to for moral world leadership in standards of justice and tolerance.

Where are we going? Are we to keep all these business men at home to help in a production drive to outstrip America in mass producing commodities which we and they say the nations must buy? Or are we going to maintain and improve the relations built up over centuries by our merchants, by adventure, diplomacy, integrity, and enterprise, in studying the wants of other countries and fulfilling our natural function of manufacturing and supplying

those needs?

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An American industrial expert has been quoted as saying that while his country has no superior in organised production efficiency he did give equal credit to Britain for its ability to improvise, and that we were apparently cheaper in the making of small quantities. Americans perceive that, and why then should we concentrate our whole attention on mass production which is their

natural function, meriting our reciprocal respect.

Every Production Engineer enjoys having a good run of productivity after the trouble he takes to launch it. By all means let us have as much of it as we can, but no one knows like the British engineer the intense interest which centres round the problems of economics presented by small quantity production, and no one knows better than he, if he will only think of it, that it is his particular and natural forte. No people can beat us at it but we need to be constantly reminded of the fact.

STUDYING THE HUMAN FACTOR

In mass production, we have to look back with some shame to our failure to study sufficiently the human factor. We need not reproach ourselves too severely because we too have been the creatures of circumstance and, in our endeavours to keep on top of competition, have swung diligently into a system which seemed to offer many benefits to all. The

attitude developed by the "workers" in formulating their demands for their "rights" encouraged, if not obliged, the employers to adhere to rules which better judgment may have shown to be inadvisable.

For instance, the time for an operation would be halved by the introduction of a new jig. At the same time, the fixing of the new rate would ensure that the operator could earn only the same as he did whilst using the old method. The gain was all to the employer and it was difficult to see how the operator could benefit, with the result that his attitude towards the new tool would at best be neutral and more likely antagonistic. We lost the enthusiasm of the "worker" for improved methods, whereas if a small proportion of the advantage gained could have been awarded to the worker his interest could have been maintained.

Again many operations, especially line operations, employed the majesty of the human being as a function of the mechanism. From that evil sprang a worse, the introduction of monetary incentive. To spur men and women to greater effort various systems of monetary incentive were inaugurated, with the inevitable result that the wage-earners became conscious only of their wages and the work became abhorrent to them. Following that, inspection and supervision had to be augmented and inspection introduced as an operation in the production line, in order to catch bad work before it got through to the following operations where time and money would be spent on something which would have to be rejected after all.

MONETARY Wages became almost the sole obsession of the Trade Unions, whose function should be directed towards the welfare of the worker by education, physical training, training of young craftsmen and workers, and, above all, co-operation with the interests of the employers. Instead they found themselves engrossed with the never-ending clash of wage problems and the arrangement of payment systems. So formidable has this become that the outside of a worker's wage packet today is a study in itself, and it is not uncommon to see workers discussing the intricacies of it. Wage consciousness increases. Monetary incentives have defeated their own ends by becoming stabilised as part of the expected wage, and more and more incentive has to be added to stimulate the worker. Higher becomes the load which the State and the Unions place on the shoulders of the employers in working out week by week the correct wage of each individual employee.

It may be objected that any monetary reward is an incentive

and it is reasonable to admit that.

In defining exactly what we mean and do not mean by the term

'monetary incentive', we mean the positive act of setting up monetary gain as the goal of human endeavour, and the negative act of assuming thereby that human endeavour cannot be made to respond as well to other influences as it can to that. We mean the negation of all the attributes of leadership by the substitution of monetary aims. The attributes of leadership are the recognition of human dignity; the cultivation of the team spirit which is, that leaders and lead acknowledge their loyalty to a purpose above themselves towards which all contribute; the administration of justice and the co-ordinating of individual effort.

We do not mean the natural anticipation of improved reward

for better work done, or for higher status reached.

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If a man is working well and we offer him money to work better and quicker we are wrong. If he can himself, or can be taught to, work better or quicker, and we reward him when he has improved, we are right. If a man is not working well, and we offer him money to work better, we are wrong, but if he improves or can be taught to work better, and we then reward him, we are right. All worthwhile men aspire to improve their position and not merely to get, but to deserve and get more money.

SELECTION OF SUPERVISORS

In adopting monetary incentive we are apt to overlook the selecting and training of our supervisors. We are apt to select the type of man who can run a system and can keep a machine going, ignoring the fact that the principle part of that machine is the human element, subject as it is to all the vicissitudes of sentiment. We rest satisfied that, whatever the character and aptitude of the supervisor, the incentive will ensure the output we want.

What a difference it would make, what characteristics we would require in and call out of that supervisor if we would depend on him and not the incentive to draw out of the members of his team the best of which they are capable. We forsake something of real

value to purchase something of monetary value.

We are inconsistent, too. The people upon whom we most depend are those who negotiate the contracts and the supplies of material and labour, those who plan, devise the best methods, design and make the tools, without which functions the operators could not work at all. But because their work is not measurable in terms of monetary value, we reward them by the alternative incentives of recognition, mutual understanding, mutual loyalty, mutual trust and a fair wage. We deny those incentives to the workers—why? Because we do not believe that they will respond to them, and in denying them we do nothing towards developing mutual recognition, understanding, loyalty, and trust. We sacrifice those incentives and substitute a monetary incentive.

If an employee is skilled in his work and finds pride and satisfaction in doing it and doing it well, no amount of monetary incentive will help him to do it better; an offer of any such would be an insult to him and would be felt to be so. It may distract him into working more quickly but it is certain that the quality of his work or the pride in his craft would suffer, and just as certain that if he allowed himself to be attracted by the monetary incentive, it would eventually take the place of any direct interest he had once possessed in the efficiency of his work. The dignity of the craftsman would have given place to the indignity of the mere wage-getter.

Men may be rewarded by a bonus, by profit sharing, by increases in their wages, and providing that it is a reward in recognition of good work done, its rightness cannot be disputed. Such action would almost certainly result in continued good work and even improvement in quality and quantity, but that can only come from a perfect reciprocal understanding and by appreciation on both sides.

A man wants to feel that he is earning his just due and likes to feel that he is earning just appreciation. If, however, in place of that he is promised extra money to work harder or better, it is exactly equivalent to telling him that he is not working as well as he may, that we do not trust him to do so, and that we do trust him to do for extra money what we believe he will not do for his just reward. If, then, we want his best we can only get it by appreciation expressed in whatever way we may deem fit.

That is the case as affecting the conscientious craftsman.

We have, on the other extreme, the unconscientious worker, and here is a different problem. The man who has a routine job and is conscientious in doing it is in exactly the same category as the conscientious craftsman, although his work may be more monotonous. He will respond to appreciation in whatever form expressed. The unconscientious worker cannot possibly become more conscientious by the attraction of extra money for better and harder work. Surely it is foolish to think so. The only real treatment for this man is good supervision and nothing can take its place. To pay him a monetary incentive instead of providing the necessary supervision is merely inviting his discontent if he does not get the monetary incentive.

If we are honest with ourselves we must admit that monetary incentive has been and always will be a miserable substitute for something which is more difficult to give and more valuable by far, appreciation, understanding, and diligent supervision. We have offered a monetary incentive because we have believed that it would relieve us of those three requirements so that we could sit back and trust to its influence. We have reaped what we have

sown, and a poor harvest it is.

In adopting the policy of monetary incentive we sometimes shut our eyes to the actual increase in inspection costs, scrapped work, and reclamation of bad work made inevitable. We often do this by including such costs in our overhead load.

How soon may we get down to a just wage for every man and exert the difficult but worthwhile influence of appreciation and

diligent supervision?

Workers and employers would all gain by a change in the system of payment and it is questionable if anything would be lost by reverting to a set wage, the amount of which would depend simply on the quality of the earner. The incentive would then be the quality of workmanship and output would depend upon the quality of supervision and the ability of the worker to keep his job by virtue of his diligence and his merits. Production Engineering

needs simplification and not complication.

How many wage-earners would not gladly once and for all compute all the additions, bonuses, allowances and deductions to which they are entitled, or for which they are liable, and settle to a steady wage week by week, to say nothing of the saving in clerical time which would be effected. Once settled, they could count their wages to see that they were right and could then forget them. The quality of their work, the amount they could produce, and the satisfying of their employer would be their incentives. The responsibility of losing their jobs, or losing the appraisal of their colleagues if not satisfactory, would be a deterrent to sloth or inefficiency.

RATEFIXING The systems of payments based on ratefixing had another reason for their introduction, and that was to enable employers to estimate accurately the factory cost of an article. Today the bottom is knocked out of that reason; the estimator can only guess what the actual cost is likely to be. In the present state of flux, how many estimates hold good for twelve months or even six months?

Apart from that, however, new models required in moderate quantity, if handled on the quantity production system, entail a certain amount of training of operators and, up to the time when they can be said to be trained, errors in their work will have to be done over again. Inspection has to be augmented and supervision sharpened, which means that overheads run high. By the time that has steadied down, the batch is completed.

If, for such work, a set wage was paid and the work carried through as a straight contract, some possible extra labour time showing up may be cancelled out by the saving in time and cost in preparing for the run, and in hidden expenses in carrying it

through.

If the real actual cost of carrying through a batch of work under

a quantity production system could be compared with the actual cost of the same batch made in a section, well planned with all the advantages of our present knowledge, it would be surprising

if the quantity production system showed any real gain.

In speaking of systems we have in mind not the decent orderly setting out of work for production, which makes all the difference between its being carried through successfully or with waste of time and material, but what we know as routine. The history of modern routine is in line with the history of modern production and is based on quantity production, it has in fact been nurtured on quantity production and, in consequence, has become a menace

to anything but that.

We have become so enamoured of quantity production systems that large and small factories alike have come to imagine that without it they are out of date and inefficient. Nothing has been more attractive than to secure a man, often an American, whose special duty has been to systematise production and indeed to try to bring it to the standard of American efficiency. We have learned much by these experiences and let no one grumble at the American, he has taught us much. We have paid heavily for our own course of action and would probably have paid heavier if we had not acquired the knowledge. Yet, at the present time, we are so wedded to quantity production formulae that we cannot efficiently cope with what is ours by nature, by geographical position and by economic necessity.

Ours is a small country with great influence; we are by nature a tolerant people, a peculiar people, and cannot easily credit that any merit of our own should place us in the forefront in competition with others. We are always ready to believe that the other fellow is as good if not better, and it is largely due to that trait that we so quickly seek and absorb advice from him. well, and we learn by it. We are so placed as to be interdependent with other peoples for success in commerce, which broadens our outlook to intense world interest. Our economic position since

the wars involves shortage of many materials.

It therefore behoves us to put into the little we have the best we can, and, instead of using much material to make many cheap commodities, attention should be directed to the fewer commodities of greater value. If we would but do this, the Commonwealth,

America, and other countries would buy from us.

We have, therefore, to apply quantity production, as such, in its appropriate sphere, but to set ourselves to batch and smaller quantity manufacture as a definite target, employing all the craftsmanship we can command and attract to our factories, educating and training new talent as quickly and well as possible. We must remember, too, to reward it, and then an influx would be guaranteed. Large organisations may do well to separate their systems, one applicable to large quantity production and another specifically designed to cater for small quantity production on efficient lines. The latter may involve separate self-contained sections which would operate through or apart from the other at will, which can design, purchase, plan, pay wages, and sell independently or interdependently.

If we examine the functions of the quantity production system mentioned earlier, we shall see that much of it can be modified

and simplified gainfully when handling batch quantities.

Process Layout—is very necessary and involves the efficient flow of the work. The Process Engineer would be attached to the Section and would be on the spot throughout the work.

Ratefixing—can be eliminated entirely by paying straight time with good supervision.

Estimating—should incorporate the function of ratefixing by estimating the times for the operations laid down by the Process Sheets.

Planning—is simplified by routing the complete job, or, if required, the units comprising that to the appropriate Section which will handle the entire business.

Shop orders-eliminated.

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Orders for materials-handled by the Section.

Tool Design, Manufacture and Tryout—the Process Engineer would regulate the tool design and would progress the work through to tryout and the making or ordering of parts from the tools, and the making of assemblies which would be in the Section.

Stores Inspection and Control—would function normally, but stores would be routed direct or in batches to the Section, as required by the Supervisor.

Progressing-would be the responsibility of the Section.

Inspection—inspection of parts made in the Section and Assembly Inspection would be covered by the Section and it would differ from the normal Line Inspection by an important detail: the Inspector would himself put right anything that he found wrong where practicable, notifying the Supervisor verbally to avoid recurrence. Only in continuous line production is it economical to inspect, reject, and shunt work to rectification.

Accounting—would be effected within the Section under the control of the Chief Accountant. Being on the spot, it would provide the Manager of the Section with what he needs in time, enabling him to control expenditure and credits. No bonus incentive would be given to the Manager or others. They should

be suitably rewarded on results, not by promises but by increases of salary, wage or status. The difference is a dignity which cannot be achieved by monetary incentive.

DEFEATING MONOTONY

If we think to eliminate monotony from the lot of the human being, we are super-optimists, but that is no reason why we should not take every step in our power to reduce it to a minimum and, where it cannot be avoided, to adopt counter-measures to relieve it as much as possible.

The disease needs to be understood in itself and carefully diagnosed in relation to its effect upon human nature before proper treatment can be prescribed. Attempting then a definition, we might describe monotony as a condition of mind brought about by repetition of movement, or the use of one of the five senses to

such an extent that the mind tires or becomes dormant.

Its effect upon human nature is dependent upon its degree and on the nature of the person affected. Everyone possessed of discipline or self-control has to take a share of monotony. It is usual for a man to shave daily, for a woman to wash up after a meal, and the tasks affect persons in two ways. Either they tire the mind to the extent of taxing self-discipline, or else the task becomes a habit, in which case the mind is not, or is very little, employed upon it. The degree to which a task is undertaken or imposed may of course result in physical and therefore mental fatigue.

It is important then, in setting out work for persons to perform, to study the number of times the task must be performed within a given period, and to consider the type of person required to perform it. If it is clearly monotonous and will tire the operator, it is worse than useless to depend upon an incentive bonus or any such means to encourage or oblige him to work quickly and well. Counter-measures must be devised to relieve and offset the monotony. These may take the form of frequent relief operators or the combination of other operations with the repetition one in order to break the monotony. Often better efficiency can be effected by combining operations than by the prevalent urge to break them down.

The choice of persons for such tasks should take into account ability readily to turn the performance of the task into a habit; temperamental outlook, degree of ambition or contentment, and the proximity of other interests to divert the mind from entire

concentration.

One of the greatest incentives to the efficient performance of any work is a vivid appreciation of the greater of which it is part. That is a true statement for every human work, however small or however great, is but part of a greater. No effort should be spared therefore to aquaint an operator with the following stages of the work towards which he is contributing, and to win his interest in those stages up to one as high as he is able to appreciate. Human nature will respond to this, and, instead of a drove of slaves to a system, we shall breed a team of men.

We are aware that some of the thoughts expressed will be difficult of assimilation to many absorbed in the trend of the present day, but we are pointing to the day which is dawning and

not to the age as it is.

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Nevertheless we are not thinking loosely for already we are witnessing the breakdown of many systems, in particular of the monetary system, the root and basis of a colossal growth of evil.

We shall witness the confusion of finance and world economy. Better by far to plan now on sound basic principles, above all respecting the sanctity of the human being.

#### Notes

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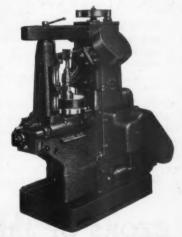
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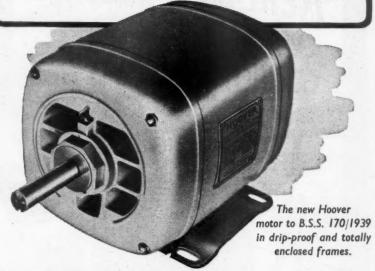
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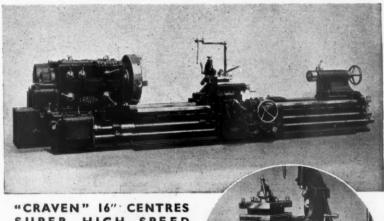
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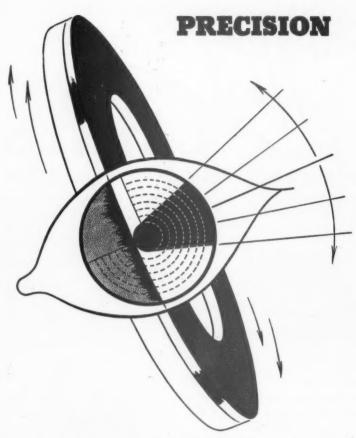


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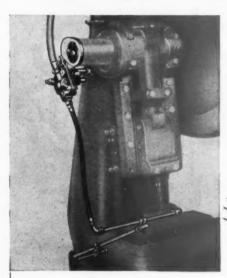




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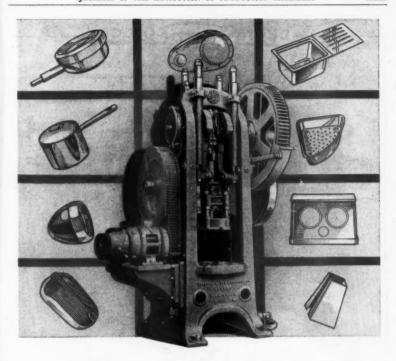
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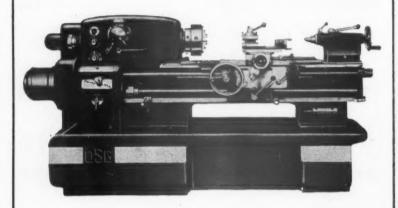


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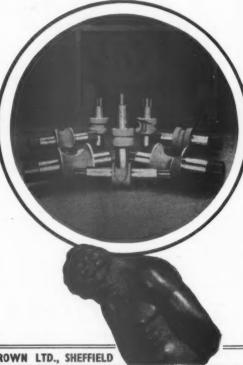
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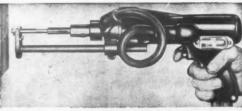
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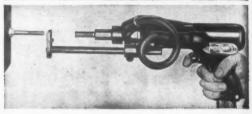
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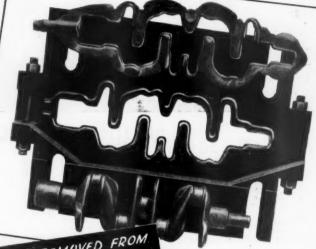
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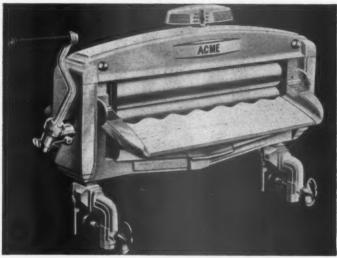
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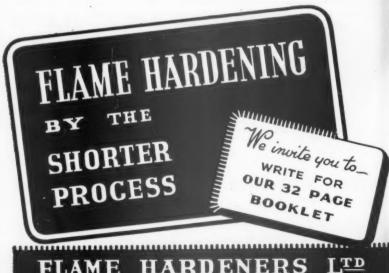
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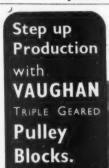
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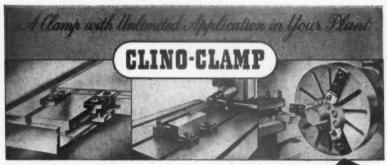
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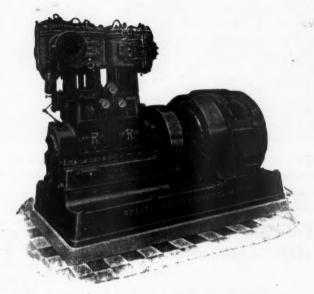
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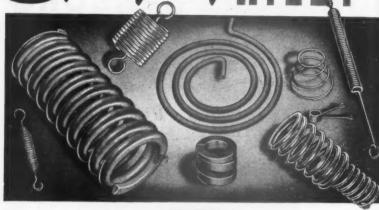


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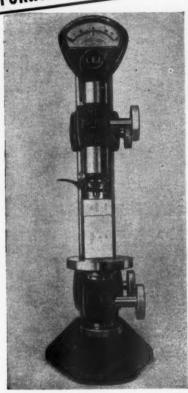
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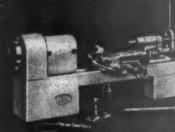
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ARCHER SUPER QUALITY Sleeves and Sockets are hardened all over; ground internally and externally, and are of exceptionally high quality. They have a long life of accuracy and concentricity.

THESE SUPER SLEEVES being hardened, prevents bruises and burns from rough shop usage, and thereby protects machine spindle bores from damage. The extra cost of these hardened high-grade Sleeves and Sockets is very soon paid for by the savings effected.

ARCHER STANDARD QUALITY Sleeves and Sockets meet the demand for a high class sleeve at a moderate cost. Both the internal and external taper are guaranteed to standard Morse gauges. The tangs and slots are correct in dimensions and centralised, thereby avoiding tang binding and broken tangs.

THESE STANDARD Sleeves and Sockets are toughened by oil-heat treatment, and stand up to shop usage much better than the cheaper soft sleeves.





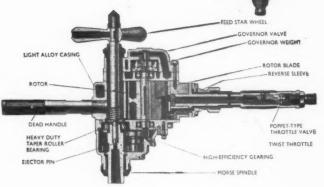
BUY BRITISH SLEEVES — ASK FOR LIST 45

FRANK GUYLEE & SON

'ARCHER' TOOL WORKS, MILLIOUSES SUEFFIELD &

#### SEE HOW THEY WORK





See, too, how smoothly Holman Rotodrills run—and for how long without attention. For deep holes or sheet metal work, for woodboring, for tapping and flue-rolling, for drilling and reaming in awkward corners—there's a Holman Rotodrill for practically every job a drill will do and for some that other drills won't do. The vane-type air motor keeps up a constant speed, ensuring clean, fast drilling. Stall a Holman Rotodrill and you can restart it at once. No vibration—low air consumption.

#### SAMPLE RANGE

Canacian | Langeh | Waight

Туре	R.P.M.	ins.	ins.	lb.	
Handheld O/5	2,400	4	8}	5½	
28	1,200	8	152		
SCREWFEED	REVERS	IBLE AND	NON-RE	VERSIBLE	
310 R	700	18	11	161	
420 R	350	11	133	34	
870 R	45	3	20	59	
Close Quarter	400	12	22	35	
Woodborer 312 RW	520	11	138	17	

NOW is the time to send for details and specifications of the complete range. Please state if interested in other pneumatic tools.

**DELIVERY EX-STOCK** 

ROTOGRINDS.
Smooth-running and
quiet. Full range of precision grinding and heavyduty types for internal
grinding, cleaning castings, polishing, buffing,
scaling, fettling, etc.
"Straight" and "grip"
handles supplied.

CHIPPING HAMMERS for all classes of work. New designs with easy but precise control. No vibration, no maint:nance, no trouble. The first name for lasting service

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